

FEB 23 2007

Docket No. F-7859

Ser. No. 10/619,103

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Please amend page 6, line 9 of the specification as follows:

FIG. 3 shows a sectional view of an apparatus for molding a microlens array by compressing a heated glass element 3 , i.e., a heated lens preform 3, between opposing end tips of oppositely placed first and second cores 1, 2. In this embodiment, a depression part 10A for molding a plurality of convex lens elements is formed on a compression molding surface 10 of at least one of the cores; that is the core 1 in this embodiment. The end tips have a predetermined radial outer dimension.

When setting the glass element 3 between compression molding surfaces 10, 11 of the first and second cores 1, 2, a middle plate 4, i.e., an intermediate member 4, the middle plate having a predetermined outer radial dimension formed with a hole 4A, i.e., an opening with a predetermined radius, at its center is placed on a flattened compression molding surface 11 , i.e., a molding platform, of the second core. The cores and middle plate are aligned so that a center axis of each is co-axially disposed. The glass element 3 is set in the hole 4A in such a way that

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a small amount of gap occurs in the hole 4A of a middle plate 4. Also, the tip part 1A of the first core 1 is configured to be fit into the hole 4A of the middle plate 4 so as to be able to move up and down.

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